

John & Mary Giles Crook's First Heber Fort Cabin Home:

It was May of 1859, that this Cabin was built inside Fort Heber, by John Crook and his neighbors. It had a dirt floor and dirt roof. For warmth, a fire was built in the center of the dirt floor and the smoke would escape thru either end of the apex of the roof, where, purposely, the top log was left out, to allow the escape of the smoke. This is the only example of Heber Fort Cabins, remaining in Timpanogos Valley.

Ferrin, Berlin and Scott Whitaker obtained this cabin, which stood at 162 West 300 North in Heber City, Utah. They hired Bsp Ervin J Anderson to move it to The Homestead. This was done by jacking it up and placing two logs, longitudinally, beneath it and letting the cabin back down onto the logs. The logs were then planked together and chained to Bishop Anderson's old Reo truck. It was then skidded on the logs to The Homestead, in the middle of the night; to avoid traffic problems. The date of this removal is not known to this history compiler, but the compiler does have a written certificate, signed by Bsp Anderson, of the removal.

As you look at this cabin, notice the strategically-placed gun slits in the walls and the absence of the top logs at the apex of the roof on either end of the building. Notice also, there is no provision for a fireplace. This cabin was the sanctuary safety room of the Crook Family, from the Indians, so there is only one window in it.